

CLEATOR MOOR TOWN COUNCIL
THE SQUARE * CLEATOR MOOR * CUMBRIA CA25 5AP



The Review Officer (Copeland)
Local Boundary Commission for England
14th Floor
Millbank Tower
LONDON
SW1P 4QP

8th February 2018

Dear Sir or Madam

A proposal for the warding arrangements for Copeland have been presented to Copeland Councillors at a meeting last night. Within the proposal is the suggestion to take Cleator area into the parish of Egremont.

On behalf of Cleator Moor Town Council, I have been asked to provide you with further commentary from a parish perspective. I also have the full support of Copeland Councillors David Banks, Hugh Branney, Linda Jones-Bulman, Joan Hully and David Riley in the writing of this letter. May I confirm at this point, that Copeland Borough Council have not consulted with Cleator Moor Town Council or their elected Copeland Borough Councillors in respect of Cleator being part of the Egremont parish, prior to developing this proposal.

This is not an acceptable proposal for the community of Cleator for the following reasons:

- Geographically Cleator and Cleator Moor are linked together very closely sharing the same road networks, and footpaths interlinking the settlements.
- Historically, Cleator is the original, ancient settlement from which Cleator Moor developed in the mid 1800's.
- Cleator Moor is an extension of the village name Cleator. Removing Cleator from Cleator Moor to move it to Egremont parish seems non-sensical.
- There are cultural associations between residents in Cleator and Cleator Moor. They share many of the same services such as nurseries, primary

schools, shops, sports clubs and the library. They share the same churches and places of worship.

- Cleator residents naturally associate themselves with Cleator Moor and the dispersal of family groups between Cleator and Cleator Moor is common place.
- Egremont Councillors, I understand, support the retention of Cleator in Cleator Moor parish.

In discussing this issue, we feel that weight of consideration should be to retain Cleator and Cleator Moor under one parish, the parish of Cleator Moor. I offer suggestions on behalf of the Town Council as to how this can be achieved.

Option 1 - Retain Cleator in Cleator Moor Parish with three elected representatives serving the area. We acknowledge that the forecast electorate figures for the parish of Cleator Moor exceeds the 10% tolerances by 2.9% but ask that the Local Boundary Commission make an exception in this case, notwithstanding the figures. This option would not have an impact on councillor/electorate ratio for Egremont.

Option 2 - Retain Cleator in Cleator Moor Parish and but also encompass Keekle, Padstow and Summergrove into a new Cleator Moor Parish with two wards and four elected representatives serving this area. This would reduce the councillor/elector ratio in the parishes of both Cleator Moor, and Moor Row and Bigrigg into the less than 10% range and ensure the ratio of councillors per electorate fall within the recommended range. There are similarities in the communities of Keekle, Padstow and Summergrove with Cleator and Cleator Moor. Members feel this would be a better fit for the community, than to move Cleator to Egremont.

May I take this opportunity to invite a representative of the Boundary Commission to visit Cleator and Cleator Moor prior to any resolutions on this matter being issued.

Yours faithfully

Mrs H Gilmour
Clerk to the Council